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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : C12N 5/00, 15/63, 15/79, 15/00, A61K 48/00	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 96/17053 (43) International Publication Date: 6 June 1996 (06.06.96)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US95/15455		(74) Agents: GOLDSTEIN, Jorge, A. et al.; Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C., Suite 600, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005-3934 (US).
(22) International Filing Date: 28 November 1995 (28.11.95)		
(30) Priority Data: 08/348,258 28 November 1994 (28.11.94) US 08/487,992 7 June 1995 (07.06.95) US		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG).
(60) Parent Application or Grant (63) Related by Continuation US Filed on 08/487,992 (CIP) 7 June 1995 (07.06.95)		(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): GENETIC THERAPY, INC. [US/US]; 938 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878 (US).
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(54) Title: VECTORS FOR TISSUE-SPECIFIC REPLICATION

(57) Abstract

The invention generally relates to targeted gene therapy using recombinant vectors and particularly adenovirus vectors. The invention specifically relates to replication-conditional vectors and methods for using them. Such vectors are able to selectively replicate in a target tissue to provide a therapeutic benefit from the presence of the vector *per se* or from heterologous gene products expressed from the vector and distributed throughout the tissue. In such vectors, a gene essential for replication is placed under the control of a heterologous tissue-specific transcriptional regulatory sequence. Thus, replication is conditioned on the presence of a factor(s) that induces transcription or the absence of a factor(s) that inhibits transcription of the gene by means of the transcriptional regulatory sequence with this vector; therefore, a target tissue can be selectively treated.